

DATE: 1 April 1970

TO : Dr. Lederberg

FROM : David Sachs *D.S.*

SUBJECT: Crowding material

The other day I ran across the following quote by W.H. Auden, cited by Stewart Udall in 1976: Agenda for Tomorrow, p. 41:

It is possible to hope against hope for many things — that science may learn how to provide us with an unending supply of synthetic foodstuffs, that intelligence and good will may solve all our economic and political problems — but no human agency can increase the surface area of the earth. If the effects of overcrowding on rats can be as deleterious as experiments have shown them to be, what can we expect will happen to human beings?